

9 April 2004

From: Commander, Naval Air Systems Command

Subj: CARRIER ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY REVIEW BOARD I

Encl: (1) Carrier ATRB I Administrative Procedures and Technical Requirements

1. As Chairman, CAPT Frank Nichols (AIR-1.2) is pleased to announce the first Carrier Advanced Technology Review Board and issue this call letter for Carrier ATRB I. This AIR-1.0 activity will convene the first Carrier Advanced Technology Review Board (CATRB I) to review emerging technologies (including technologies which improve maintenance or reduce total ownership cost) and facilitate early transition planning for those with high potential to meet current and future integrated system requirements. Enclosure (1) provides administrative procedures, lists current technical needs identified by the participating Program Offices, and the ATRB Technology Information Sheet used for making a submission to the board. The CATRB includes in its membership PMA-213 (Air Traffic Control and Combat ID Systems), PMA-251 (Aircraft Launch & Recovery Equipment) and N78 as voting members, and will initially include PMA-260 (Aviation Support Equipment), PMA-281 (Cruise Missile C2/Mission Planning), PMS-312 (Aircraft Carrier Program Office), PMS-378 (Future Carrier Program Office) and N76 as non-voting observers. The first CATRB will be limited to Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) aviation-related issues to exercise the system and procedures, and then may be expanded in subsequent ATRB cycles to include Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA) technology areas of interest. Technologists in government, industry and academia are urged to consider submitting their projects for an assessment of transition potential. While the CATRB itself is not a source of funding, the individual member PMAs may elect to fund projects that meet their technical needs ("support" votes). Also, the process enables critical transition linkage between the technology and user communities, and resulting "endorse" votes most often facilitate follow-on funding of highly rated technologies, or continued funding from the original source.

2. The CATRB process includes both a conference and a decision meeting. The conference includes short briefings by the PMAs on their product lines, roadmaps and technology needs followed by technology briefs by the submitters of technologies as chosen by the PMAs. The conference allows for valuable technical discussions between program office representatives, requirements officers, and technology proponents on technology needs, insertion windows and technology candidates seeking transition support. The decision meeting is a forum where Program Managers and N-code resource officer representatives will discuss, coordinate, and rate candidates for official support, endorsement, and interest designations for future transition planning. ATRB results will be published for general information and will also be used to develop Technology Roadmaps. Specific strengths and weaknesses of each submittal as well as other general comments will be provided to the submitter.

Subj: CARRIER ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY REVIEW BOARD

3. The CATRB I Conference is planned for 9 June and will be held in the AI-ES (formerly Veridian) Conference Center on Exploration Drive, in Lexington Park, MD, just outside NAS Patuxent River. The meeting will commence at 0800 and continue throughout the day as required. Technology submitters selected by the PMAs will be given an opportunity to brief their concepts at the CATRB conference to clarify critical points and receive feedback from the PMAs and OPNAV. These briefings will be short (15 minutes) and address specific needs stated in the PMA Technology Needs (Encl 1, Part II) and criteria from the ATRB Technology Information Sheet (Encl 1, Part III). A briefing agenda will be provided once the technology candidates are received, reviewed and selected. Individual program offices can request detailed briefings or clarification on specific technology projects of interest in the time period between the CATRB conference and CATRB decision meetings. The follow-on CATRB Decision Meeting will be held from 0900-1100 on 23 June in the IPT building (2272), AIR-1.0 conference room 354.13. Attendance will be limited to CATRB voting members and official, invited observers.

4. Enclosure 1, Part III (ATR Technology Information Sheet) provides the format for information needed by the Naval Aviation Carrier ATRB Program Managers to assist them in the CATRB decision process. Technologists wishing to have their submissions evaluated at this CATRB should complete and provide the form by 10 May 2004. Further distribution of this call letter to other U.S. and allied government, industrial, and academia partners is encouraged to ensure all appropriate technologies are considered.

5. All participating program offices and agencies (PMAs 213, 251, 260, 281, PMS-312, PMS-378, OPNAV-N78/N76), are invited and requested to prepare a short presentation (10-15 minutes) on their organizations and system or capability roadmaps, as applicable, showing program status, technology initiatives already endorsed, unfilled technology needs, and windows of opportunity for technology insertion. These will be presented at the conference to provide a vision for future needs and to stimulate new technology initiatives.

6. The ATRB process has received widespread acceptance within the Naval Aviation and S&T communities and, with your continued support, it can significantly improve our technology investment and transition track records. Questions may be directed to the Carrier ATRB Facilitator, Mr. Mark Husni at 732-323-4081 or Mr. Jim Wilhelm (NAVAIR ATRB Team) at 301-863-4363.

/s/

CAPT FRANK NICHOLS
By Direction